



# *The Old School Report*

## Merimbula Old School Museum Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 1, Issue 1  
May 2022

### In this issue

From the President	1
Vale Brian Harrap	2
From the collection – Wooden Chinese yoke	2
Accessible tourism Seminar	3
Our meetings	3
Trevor Kennedy Oyster Plate Collection exhibition opening	4
The <i>Alma Gray</i>	4
Coming Events	4
Our Members – Pam and George Pitt	5
Just for Fun	6
A Peek at the Past	7
From the Museum Store	8
Test Your Trivia answers	9
Contact us	9
Officer Bearers	9
Become a Member	9
Application for membership	10

### Where are we?

85 Main Street  
Merimbula, NSW, 2548

### Museum opening times

Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday,  
1.30 – 4.00 pm.  
Groups by appointment.

### Admission

Adults - \$5.00 pp  
Children - Free



**Silas Dunstan of Morgans Merimbula (left) pictured presenting Society President Don Bretherton a \$1000 cheque in November in 2021. The welcome donation has been put towards improving the Society's collection cataloguing system. Morgans Merimbula have been welcome supporters of the museum for three years.**

## *From the President*

Thanks to Andrew Mc Manus for editing this newsletter for the past few years. A rewarding task performed with dedication. Andrew has passed the batten to Angela George who will bring a different look to this The Old School Report. A very warm welcome to Angela and thanks to all who contributed to make this a significant issue.

We have been gifted a boat built as a Salmon Punt and relocated to Merimbula to serve out its days as an Oyster Punt. It is constructed in a contrasting way to that seen in the Gus Cole Punt that has graced our west veranda for many years. The vessel is in a fragile state due to its being outdoors for some time and discussions are under way to see if it can be employed at the Old School Museum and, if this is to be, to get some financial and practical assistance in its establishment.

The Bega Valley Shire Council has been successful in obtaining a grant to carry out the first part of our move to become an "Accessible" Museum capable of admitting visitors with access with limited mobility. The total project involves the establishment of Accessible Car Parking to facilitate wheelchair

*"Thanks to Andrew Mc Manus for editing this newsletter for the past few years."*  
**President Don Bretherton.**

access, construction of walkways, modification of openings and construction of a new Entry/Sales/Office building on the north of the existing building. This has been split at Council's request and Plans drawn up for Stage 1. Local resident Lotte Pors Eriksen has prepared the necessary drawings. Thanks go to Lotte and to Caddy Searl & Jarman for donating their services. New insight into the benefits and diversity of people with limited ability and the opportunities to increase involvement and visitation has been gained by attendance at Accessibility and Cultural Tourism workshops held recently.

The Committee is currently working to resolve the finer points of the new "common entry". Once this is done we will commence detailed planning for stage 2 and start seeking grant money to complete the project.

*Don Bretherton*



# Vale Brian Harrap

Members will be saddened to hear of the passing of former Society President Brian Harrap on 12 April 2022.

Brian was born in 1926 and attended Ivanhoe Grammar School. He went on to study at the University of Melbourne, where he completed Bachelor and Masters degrees majoring in Chemistry. He then completed one Ph.D. at the University of Melbourne in Physical Chemistry, and remarkably, a second Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge in Colloidal Science.

In 1959 Brian was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and Post Doctoral Fellowship at Harvard University.

Throughout his career, Brian worked for the CSIRO. He contributed to the science of leather research, wool research, and dairy research. Between 1971 and 1979 he was the Chief of the CSIRO Division of Dairy Research in Highett, Victoria. From there he moved to the CSIRO Centre for International Research in Canberra.

Brian was unassuming and modest. Few will know of his research achievements which were of the top tier. Throughout his career he published 65 papers in international journals. He was also on several International Committees and travelled to many interesting parts of the world in those roles.

With his wife Ruth, Brian enjoyed his time in Canberra and its close proximity to Pambula Beach, where they moved upon his retirement. Together they spent many happy years enjoying new and old friendships in the local community, and having family holiday with them. Brian was a keen member of the Bega Valley Genealogy Society, Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society and Bridge Club.

Our deepest sympathies to Ruth and their family and friends. Rest in peace, Brian.



**Above: Member Neil Burnham getting some order into the greenery in the museum's grounds.**

## BENDIGO BANK CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE SOCIETY



A huge thank you to Pambula's Bendigo Bank for their \$1005.00 donation. This has allowed us to purchase a smart TV to incorporate audio/visual material into our exhibition program.

Pictured above are Museum Curator Liz Bretherton (left) and President Don Bretherton accepting a cheque from Debbie Cusack and Graham Stubbs of Bendigo Bank; and below, museum committee members Neil Burnham (left), Liz Bretherton and Don Bretherton eagerly plan the installation of the new tv.



## From the collection >>>

Handmade wooden yoke, formerly used by Chinese market gardeners at Pambula to carry water and produce during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



This timber Chinese shoulder yoke is a highly significant and evocative illustration of a vital but often forgotten aspect of local, regional, and national immigrant heritage. Important as a tangible link with the Chinese market garden industry which was once so widespread throughout the district, the yoke provides valuable insight into the lifestyle of this group locally and beyond during the 19th and early

20th centuries. It is also indicative of the hard manual labour performed by Chinese market gardeners, contributing to our understanding of the work practices of this group locally and beyond.

A characteristic and immediately identifiable item, it is a rare tangible reminder of the cultural traditions and practices brought to the region by the Chinese and represents an essential aspect of their migration story in Australia. It is indicative of the 19th century journeys and settlement patterns of the Chinese immigrating to Australia and the Bega Valley region and provides a valuable extant link with their crucial market gardening activities in the district.

Representative of 19th and 20th century Chinese presence in Australia, the yoke contributes to our understanding of the history of migration and cultural diversity in Australia generally and in the Bega Valley Shire in particular. It provides valuable insight into and evidence of the traditions, customs and practices brought with the new arrivals and maintained by them after arrival.

As one of only two locally associated timber Chinese yokes known to still exist in the area, it is a rare surviving example of a once common type; and an excellent representative example of the equipment introduced into Australia by Chinese immigrants and used by them for various activities. A reliably provenanced item, it is an outstanding physical reminder of Chinese market gardeners and a unique tangible link with their presence locally.

A valuable tool with which to explore the story of the Chinese market garden population in rural and regional areas, the yoke offers opportunities to promote greater understanding and appreciation of their contribution to local and Australian history. A powerful interpretive tool, it has much to offer in communicating the experience of the Chinese in rural and regional New South Wales; and contributes to a range of themes and storylines including migration, migrant groups and migration journeys; minority cultural groups in rural and regional Australia; rural and regional industries; food production and distribution; labour, work and employment; land use patterns; developing settlements, villages and towns; settling, developing and building the region; and the local economy and economic influences.

Donated to MIHS from the George Family Collection.



# Accessible Tourism Seminar

March 15 2022, at Bega.

Presented by Michelle Jones and Jenny Robb (Sapphire Tourism)

Don and I attended on Tuesday and found the seminar well presented and very relevant to our current development at OSM. We both found many aspects covered that we certainly had not considered. There was a pie chart setting out the various disabilities needing to be taken into consideration with visitors. There are many **invisible disabilities** it was pointed out, that are frequently not taken into account.

### Statistics

Mobility 8%,

Deaf or Hearing Impaired 3%,  
Blind or Vision Impaired 4%,

Arthritis, Asthma, Heart Condition, Dementia, Alzheimer's etc. 38%,

Communication Issues, Autism 3%

Dexterity 6%, Walking Frames etc. 12%,

Others including Injury or Illness 7%

From an economic standpoint, tourism contributions in Australia contribute the following:-

Disability \$3.3B

Older Visitors \$2.9B

Families \$2.7B

**Accessibility** "Never paint a picture of what you don't have"

This is very important with regard to signage, brochures etc.. Accuracy is paramount & the standard signs should be utilised. Meeting needs is essential regarding loyalty. It is very important to also cater for people accompanying the person with accessibility problems. If the visit is not enjoyable for all, the group can be lost not just the one person (**multiplying factor**). Areas of seating and rest areas are necessary for all.

### Priorities

The essentials are **Staff training** (accounts for 86% of people canvassed) and more practical

information such as brochures and other publicity (also 86%). We were told ask yourselves "What's working well? What could/would be better?"

### 3 steps to ascertain your suitability.

- (A) **Audit** your current accessibility
- (B) **Marketing** and promotion
- (C) **Customer** service training

There are experts available to help or, information for organizations to assess themselves and the cost for a full audit with on site assessment is \$2,000.00, full advice based on self audit \$700.00 and DIY with template provided \$0

(A) **Audit.** These steps will help us assess what we can do at MOSM

1. Make it easy for people to get around, e.g. car parking, ramp, signage (using standard imagery where available).
2. In the case of a café menu or other information make large print (16-18p clear font). There is a new font available for dyslexic visitors.
3. Chairs with arms to help rise from the chair, 4 legged tables for stability, central legs are in danger of tipping).
4. Build on what you already have, check things like taps and door handles. Knobs are difficult.

(B) **Marketing and Promotion.**

1. Create an accessibility statement.
2. Ensure that your website is easy to find and up to date. Include Accessibility in the top bar.
3. Australian Tourism Data Website (ATDW) listing can be checked for our level of accessibility. It is imperative that we enter our details on this site.

(C) **Staff Training.**

1. A vital part of staff training is that all staff (volunteers) should be familiar with Australian Standards AS1429 Design for access and mobility.
2. Top of things to do are signage and accessibility imagery. You can link with other sites e.g. BVSC. A whole destination can be created by bundling other attractions.
3. List of aspects you have such as photos of carparking, ramp, reception (height of desk) Imagery is super important.

### Breakdown of Accessibility Statement

Parking  
Reception  
Conference Facilities  
Common Areas  
Steps (**how many**)  
Doorway width  
Vision  
Hearing  
Use Imagery  
Staff Training

Suggestions are always appreciated i.e.

Walking Stick Hook at reception  
Hearing Loop for people with hearing aids

Discounts for not only disabled but also carers

**Remember** Disability is what someone **has** not what he **is**.

Be very mindful of language. Descriptions used in the past are no longer acceptable. Make sure your language shows respect. Do not yell. Use first person terminology.



Elizabeth Bretherton



Above: Lest we forget. President Don Bretherton and his granddaughter Alana placing a wreath on the Merimbula cenotaph on Anzac Day on behalf of the Society. Alana wore her great grandfather's WWII medals on the day. Photo courtesy of Pam Pitt.

## Our meetings

We meet on the last Monday of every month (February to November inclusive) at 2 pm at the Merimbula RSL Club. Meetings are open to everyone and we love to see new faces. Afternoon tea is served and most months we have a guest speaker. The society also hold special events at the museum and conducts interesting excursions to various local historic places and sites.



Teatime at MIHS's successful Virtual Tour of Merimbula event on 23 January this year.



# Trevor Kennedy Oyster Plate Collection Exhibition opening

30 March 2021



Above: From left, Gary Moorhead, Trevor Kennedy, and Neil Burnham chatting.

Below: one of the magnificent oyster plates in the collection donated to the MIHS by Trevor Kennedy.



Above: Hugh Wheeler, Trevor Kennedy, Liz Bretherton (speaking) and Don Bretherton at the exhibition opening. Christina Kennedy and Anthony Osbourne watching in the audience.

Trevor sadly passed away on 28 November 2021, aged 79. Our sympathies to his wife Christina and their family from all at the MHIS.

## The Alma Gray



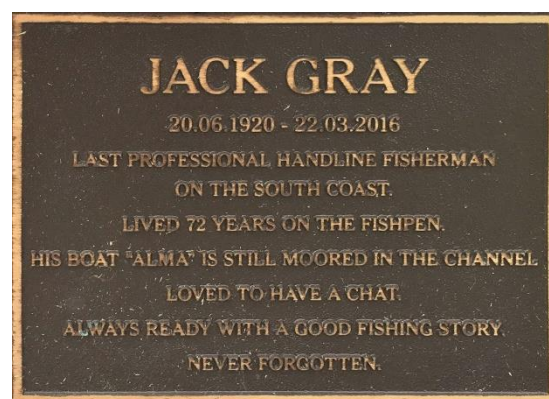
The *Alma Gray* (centre) in Merimbula Lake.

Merimbula's last commercial line fishermen, Jack bought the vessel to Merimbula from Port Albert, Victoria, in 1945, using her to fish offshore for more than 50 years until he retired in the late 1990s. According to the *Merimbula News Weekly*, she first hit the water in 1904 - and she's still going strong, Don O'Connel fully restoring her in 2008.



The *Alma Gray* (right), 2022.

Jack loved a chat and every Christmas safely brought Santa to town on the "Alma Gray", the resulting crowds so large that the police had to divert the Princes Highway traffic.



Passing away in 2016, Jack Gray is fondly remembered by the local community. His 'couth boat *Alma Gray* is an instantly recognisable icon on Merimbula Lake.

Thanks to Colette Moorhead for these images of the *Alma Gray* and the plaque memorializing Jack.

## Coming events

14 May - SEHGI meeting, 10 am, Bega Pioneers Museum.

30 May - MIHS general meeting, 2 pm, Merimbula RSL Club. Guest speaker, Peter Rutherford, talking about the Prison Department forestry camp established south of Bombala in the 1920s.

16 - 22 May - National Volunteer Week, "Better Together".

26 May - National Sorry Day.

1 April - 31 May - Australian Heritage Festival.

8 May - Mother's Day

18 May - International Museum, Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion".

30 May - Reconciliation Day.

13 June - Queen's Birthday

14 - 17 June - AmaGA National Conference, "Hear. Us. Now.", Perth, WA

27 June - MIHS general meeting, 2 pm, Merimbula RSL Club.

3 - 10 July - NAIDOC Week.

4 - 15 July - NSW School Holidays.

25 July - MIHS general meeting, 2 pm, Merimbula RSL Club.

20 Aug. - Merimbula Festival, Merimbula Old School Museum grounds.

20 Aug. - 4 Sept. - MIHS yarn bombing, various locations throughout Merimbula.

3 - 11 Sept. - History Week, "Hands-On History".

4 Sept. - Father's Day.

26 Sept. - 7 Oct. - NSW School Holidays.

3 Oct. - Labour Day

7 - 9 Oct. - Small Museums Conference, "Making My Museum Memorable", Redland Museum, Cleveland, QLD.

11 Nov. - Remembrance Day.

21 Dec. - 26 Jan. 2023 - NSW School Holidays

25 Dec. Christmas Day

26 Dec. - Boxing Day

31 Dec. - New Year's Eve.

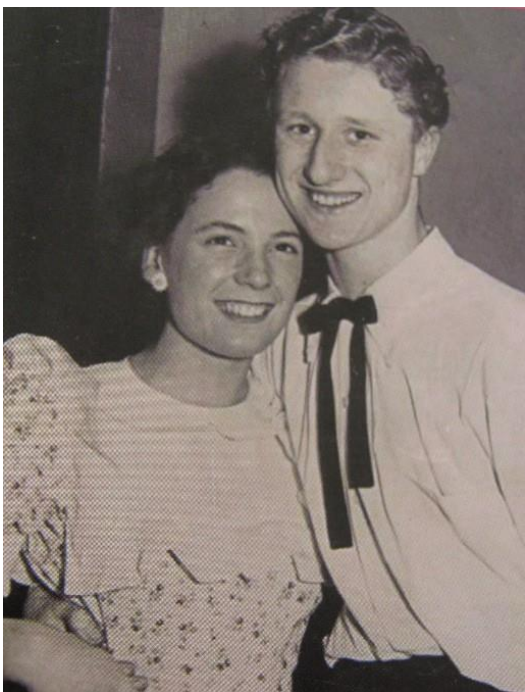
## DID YOU KNOW?

Australia is the only continent in the world covered by a single country...



# Our members

This is the story of Pam & George - long time members of MIHS, who recently celebrated their 66th Wedding Anniversary. They were both born in London in 1936. In February 1953, both age 16, they met at a square-dance, a pastime they continued right through to present day (except for a few years bringing up their family). On the very first night Pam met this tall handsome blonde boy called George Pitt, also 16, and was immediately attracted to him. George recalls how when he first met Pam and she smiled at him, that was it!! The highlight of those first few months was to be part of a demonstration team, taking part in an International Folk Festival in the Royal Albert Hall, London.



**Pam and George at the Albert Hall, London.**

At the age of 18 George was called up for his 2 years National Service duty in the Royal Air Force, and dancing ceased at that time. Pam and George were married in 1956, six months before the end of George's stint of National Service, and they spent their first year of marriage in Shrewsbury. Their first child, a son, was born at the end of that first year.



**Pam and George on their wedding day.**

After his stint of National Service, they moved back to London with their baby for a few months. George then applied and was accepted for

the West Sussex Police Force and the next 16 years were spent near the coast, George working and Pam having more babies, making five in all, 3 sons and 2 daughters. Nothing was further from their minds than square-dancing at that time.

*"On the very first night Pam met this tall handsome blonde boy called George Pitt, also 16, and was immediately attracted to him. George recalls how when he first met Pam and she smiled at him, that was it!!"*

In July 1974 George noticed an advert in a newspaper calling for Prison Officers in Australia, and applied and was accepted for the position. He and Pam, together with their five children, emigrated to Australia in September that year. After three months in a Government hostel in Maribyrnong, Melbourne, they bought their first Australian home and moved to Melton, west of Melbourne. After a few years they took up square dancing again joining a local club. George very quickly realised that the Prison Service was not for him and secured a position as an Ambulance Officer. He remained in this employment for around 8 years before starting his own driving school. Soon after their arrival in Australia Pam became a public servant with a branch of the Department of Defence Support in Maribyrnong where she spent 15 happy years, starting in the typing pool, and finishing up secretary to the Chief Superintendent. Gradually the children left school, began working, eventually marrying, or going off to university, and moving out of home. When their youngest child left they thought they would find some sort of employment they could do together, and finished up buying the apartment and managing rights of a small block of units in Merimbula and moved there at the end of 1989.

There wasn't a square dance club within a 2 hour drive and so, soon after arriving, they started their own, "Sapphire Squares", with George being the caller, quickly becoming part of the social life in Merimbula.. They ran this dance club for 27 years, making many friends, many of which remain today.

After managing the apartments for around 3 years, they sold the management rights and bought a small freehold business (just their own house and two units) with management of a few other units close by, and enjoyed the lifestyle until July 1999 when it was time for them to retire and take things a little

easier. By that time they had become members of the local jazz club, The Down South Jazz Club.



**Pam and George showing off their moves at the MIHS birthday in 2017.**

They are still very much active in this, George having been President for 18 years now and Pam the Publicity Officer for many years also. Their second son, Adrian, and his wife moved to Merimbula a few years ago and Adrian is the Treasurer for the Jazz Club, and has recently also taken on the position of Treasurer to MIHS.

Upon retirement they both looked around for voluntary work, and spent a few years with the Visitor Information Centre working together one morning a week. After those years they decided to give that away and soon became volunteers with the Merimbula Imlay Historical Society and do museum duties at the Old School Museum a couple of times each month. This they have been doing for many years now, and will continue doing so for as long as their health remains good.

Their family has now risen to 11 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and this year the family rose to 5 generations with the arrival in February of a little great-great-granddaughter. They consider themselves extremely fortunate.



**Pam and George, now both 85, and still smiling, having survived 66 happy years together!!**

*Thanks Pam and George for sharing your story with us.*

# Just for Fun

## Word Search - Australia

A	N	M	E	L	B	O	U	R	N	E	R	N	A
R	C	M	N	E	N	T	A	B	M	O	W	D	A
S	O	K	C	O	R	S	R	E	Y	A	N	I	B
S	M	B	R	I	S	B	A	N	E	I	O	N	A
G	M	U	H	A	A	R	T	U	M	Q	U	G	R
A	O	R	E	T	U	Y	E	N	D	Y	S	O	R
A	N	U	O	O	R	A	G	N	A	K	K	A	I
D	W	L	R	K	N	E	A	A	U	A	A	L	E
E	E	U	E	R	T	I	P	A	T	R	U	A	R
L	A	A	R	R	U	B	A	K	O	O	K	O	R
A	L	G	A	U	R	B	E	S	H	I	E	K	E
I	T	L	O	A	U	S	T	R	A	L	I	A	E
D	H	R	B	A	W	Q	U	A	N	T	A	S	F
E	A	A	I	N	A	M	S	A	T	F	S	E	I

Wombat  
Kangaroo  
Tasmania  
Commonwealth  
Perth  
Melbourne  
Adelaide  
Kookaburra  
Barrier Reef  
Australia  
Uluru  
Dingo  
Koala  
Brisbane  
Sydney

## Test Your Trivia

How many do you know?

1. What was the name of the vessel that Syms Covington and Charles Darwin were on when they first met?

2. When was the old Merimbula School Building (now used as the museum) built?

3. What is a treenail (also spelt “trenail”, “trennel” and “trunnel”)?

4. Where was the local gold discovery of 1889 made?

5. Who named Barmouth Creek?

6. Who was the first woman elected to an Australian parliament?

7. How many UNESCO World Heritage Sites are there in Australia?
8. What is South Coast Wool?

9: Which Australian Governor-General was born in Pambula?

10: What caused the SS William Dawes to sink?

11: What was the Lakeview Hotel previously known as?

12: What year was the first bridge across Merimbula Lake opened?

13: Where did the granite for the Sydney Harbour Bridge come from?

14. Who was the first Aboriginal member of Federal Parliament?

15: What was Pambula District Hospital originally called?
- 16: Before being named Melbourne, what was the city called?

17: Which plant was declared Australia’s national flower in 1912?

18: How many beaches does Australia have?

19. Where was the first shore based whaling station on mainland Australia?

20: Who wrote “Waltzing Matilda”?
- How did you do? See page 9 for the answers.



# ***A Peek at the Past***

## **Pambula District Soldiers' Memorial**

As WWI drew to a close, Pambula district residents began considering the erection of a memorial to the men who served during the conflict. Initially, Messrs. Wunderlich Ltd. produced the pressed metal Australian Red Cross Pambula Branch Roll of Honour at a cost of £30. Erected on the town's Post Office porch in 1918, it quickly became a community focus for commemorative services.

Ten years later, the town moved towards erecting more permanent monument to mark the service of local men in the war to end all wars. Councillor D. W. Hart called a public meeting in November 1928 to consider construction of a district memorial, and fundraising began - a particularly difficult undertaking during the worst years of the Great Depression. Finally, with £24 in hand as well as "...a number of cattle, convertible into cash..." estimates were invited in September 1932 for "...the cost of a suitable memorial design...."



***Pambula District Soldiers' Memorial, C. 1930s. Courtesy of the George Family Collection.***

By March 1935, the contract had been awarded to Messrs Zeigler and Son of Bega and in December that year the Pambula Voice publicised a planned unveiling for 15 January 1936.

However, despite having sought local government approval for the project, the Main Roads Department complained that they had not been consulted over the position. Although by that time, the cenotaph had been completed, the official unveiling had to be delayed until 8 February.

The Pambula Voice reported on the ceremony, which began with a procession from the School of Arts to the memorial, where Colonel T. E. W. Irwin performed the official unveiling. The memorial also

attracted a donation from former local medicos Dr's Lindon and Naomi Wing, who contributed a chain fence and flagstaff for the monument.

Taking advantage of the large muster of returned servicemen from throughout the district, Mr W. Godfrey commenced enrolling members for a proposed Pambula and District branch of the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia (RSSILA, now RSL) branch, and by March 1936, this had been officially formed.

The town's first Anzac Day service at the newly constructed memorial took place in April 1936, and ever since has been a venue for the local community to remember war time service and sacrifice.

Nationwide, whether in large cities or small country towns, war memorials are an important part of the Australian cultural landscape. Considered a defining moment in Australian history, WWI contributed much towards the evolution of the Australian consciousness and sense of identity, epitomised by the "Anzac Legend". As this legacy continued to embed itself in the national character, the relevance and value of monuments such the Pambula War Memorial grew and expanded to encompass subsequent conflicts.

The memorial is a tangible embodiment of the strong nationalistic sentiments prevalent in the district at the time it was planned and erected. It highlights the feelings of patriotism and pride evoked by the contribution of residents and the regard that the community had towards their service and sacrifice. Few districts across the nation escaped from the war unscathed and the Pambula area was no different. It thus contributes to an understanding of the role played by the local community during WWI and subsequent conflicts.



***Bill Hardaker and Jean Whant (obscured), Anzac Day, Pambula, C. 1964. Image © the Estate of Allan "Bubby" George.***

It illustrates the impact international events had and continue to have on small rural and regional communities across Australia. In recalling those from the district

involved in various overseas conflicts and peace keeping efforts, it is a significant testimony of the impact of war. Like the many erected across the nation following WWI, the Pambula monument is a public expression of participation, grief, and loss, indicative of the importance of remembrance and remembering in Australian culture. It is a tangible embodiment of the collective heart ache of the district's residents at the loss of their children, parents, siblings, and friends on some distant shore. And for many local families with long connections with the district, it is a physical reminder of their forebears and the role they played in the history of the nation.



***Anzac Day, Pambula, C. 1964. Image © the Estate of Allan "Bubby" George. All rights reserved.***

A focal point for the community to commemorate those who served, the monument provides an important link with that part of Pambula's past. It is a reminder of the role residents have played in conflicts and peace keeping efforts since WWI. That significance continues to expand as numbers attending commemorative services increase each year. This is a theme seen across the country, with a growing national consciousness of the "Spirit of Anzac" and its meaning for Australia as a nation.

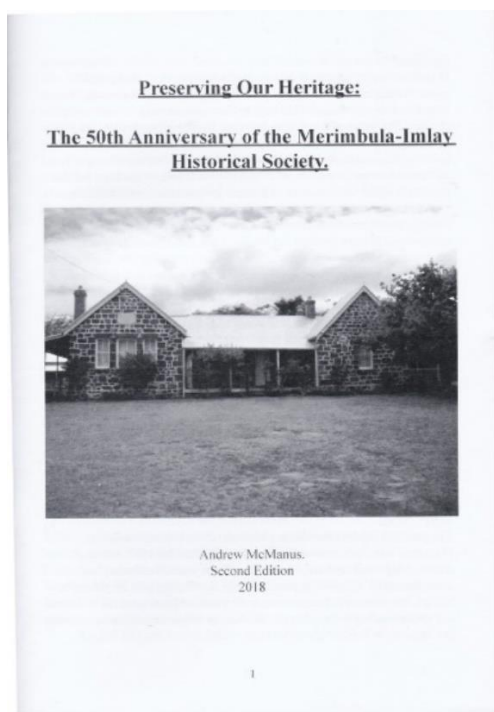


***Wreaths on the Pambula memorial, Anzac Day 2022. Photo courtesy of Angela George.***

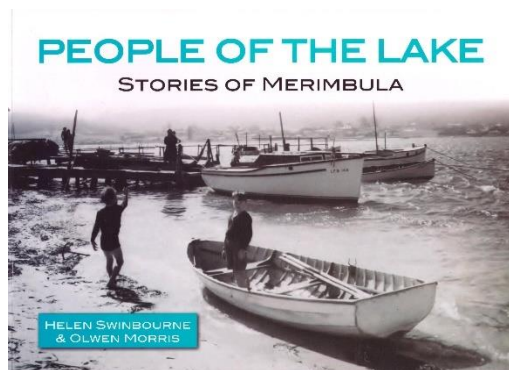
© Angela George. All rights reserved.



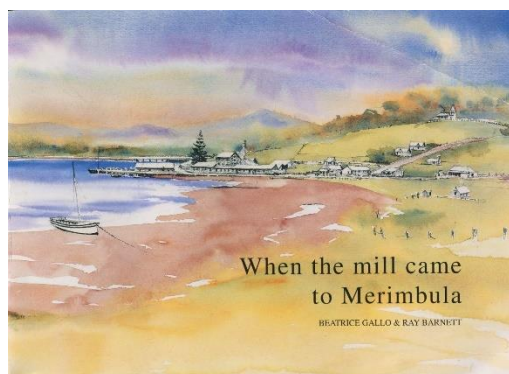
## ***From the museum store***



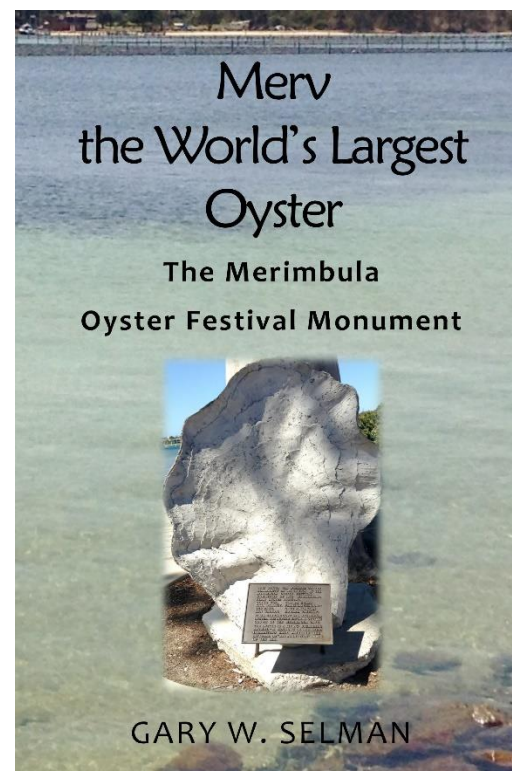
*Preserving Our History – The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society*, by Andrew McManus, \$10.00



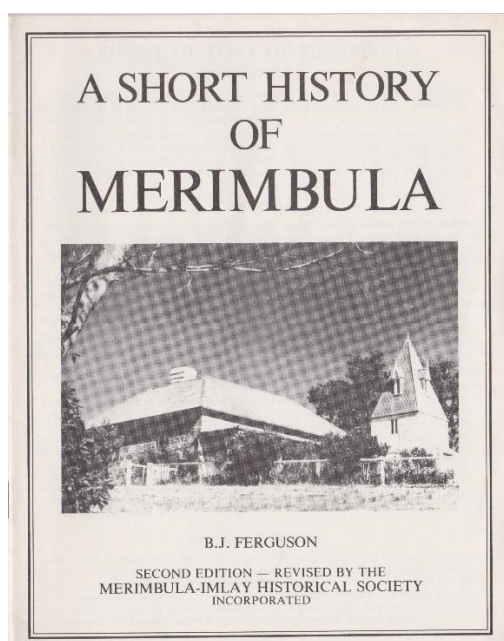
*People of the Lake – Stories of Merimbula* by Helen Swinbourne and Olwen Morris, \$25.00.



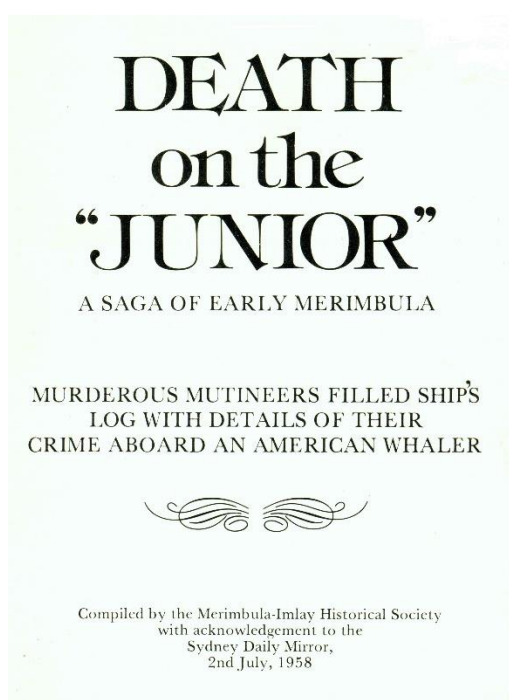
*When the Mill Came to Merimbula*, by Beatrice Gallo and Ray Barnett, \$12.00



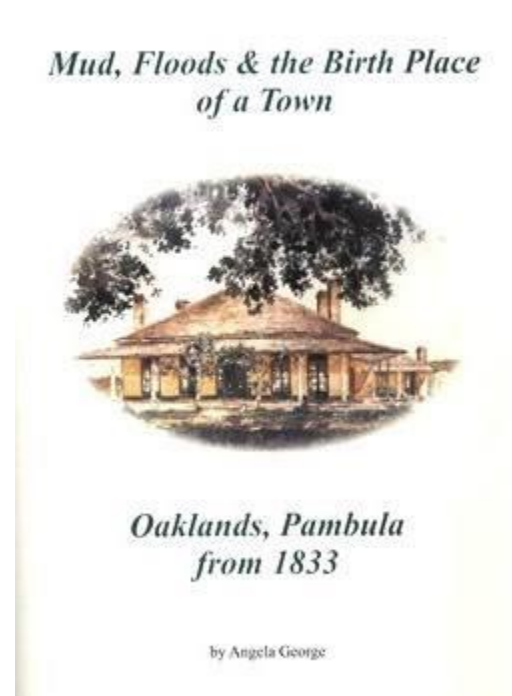
*Merv the World's Largest Oyster-The Merimbula Oyster Festival Monument*, by Gary W. Selman, \$15.00.



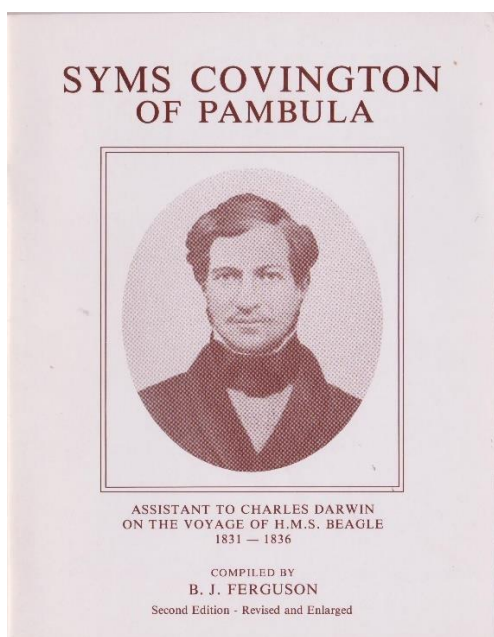
*A Short History of Merimbula*, by B. J. Ferguson, \$3.00



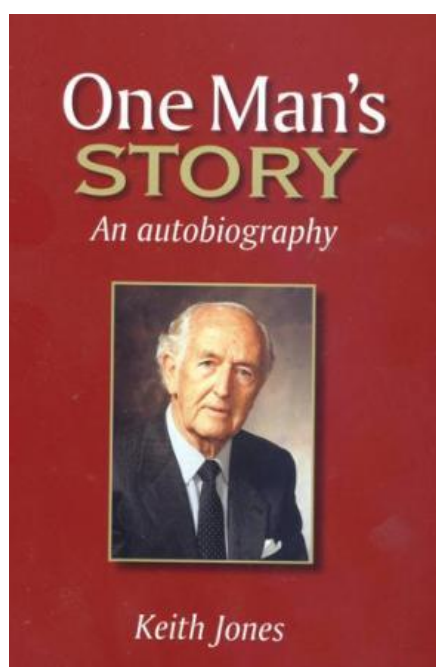
*Death on the Junior – A Saga of Early Merimbula*, \$1.00



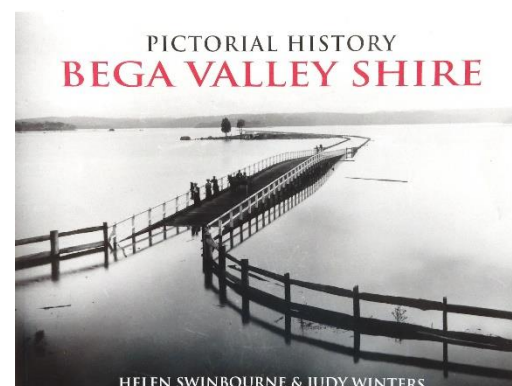
*Mud, Floods and the Birth Place of a Town – Oaklands, Pambula from 1833*, by Angela George, \$15.00.



*Syms Covington of Pambula*, by B. J. Ferguson (comp.), \$3.00



*One Man's Story – An Autobiography*, by Keith Jones, \$10.00.



*Pictorial History – Bega Valley Shire*, by Helen Swinbourne and Judy Winters, \$25.00



# Test Your Trivia

Answers (from page 6)

- 1. The Beagle.
- 2. 1875.
- 3. A wooden dowel used to fasten pieces of timber together (similar to a nail). They were often used in ship and boat building.
- 4. Mount Gahan.
- 5. George Bass.
- 6. Edith Cowan.
- 7. 20.
- 8. Wattlebark.
- 9. Sir William McKell.
- 10: It was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine.
- 11: Merimbula Hotel.
- 12. 1910.
- 13: Moruya.
- 14: Neville Bonner
- 15: Eden – Pambula Cottage Hospital.
- 16. Batmania – after John Batman who settled on the Yarra River.
- 17: Wattle.
- 18. 10, 685.
- 19: Twofold Bay / Eden.
- 20: Banjo Paterson



Above: The Brown oyster punt, offered to the Society by David Brown and currently stored off site. Oyster farming remains an integral social and economic story for Merimbula and surrounds and the Brown punt provides an important link with this heritage. Depicting the instantly recognizable shape, it is an excellent link between the Cole punt and those used in the industry today. It is listed on the Australian Historic Vessels Register.

# Did you know?

That it was declared illegal to swim at public beaches during daylight hours in NSW. The law was enforced until 1902.

# Contact us

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2548

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Primary contact President Donald Bretherton 0403 026 121

# Office bearers:

President	Don Bretherton
Vice President	Andrew McManus
Secretary	Shirley Bazley
Treasurer	Adrian Pitt
Curator	Liz Bretherton
Public Officer	Shirley Bazley
Publicity	Andrew McManus
Facebook administrator	Angela George
Instagram administrator	Nicky Bazley-Smith
Newsletter editor	Angela George
Committee members	Garry Moorhead
	Neil Burnham
	Peter Clancy

# Did you know?

That the Australian Dollar is considered the most advanced currency in the world – it's waterproof, made of polymer and notoriously hard to counterfeit.

# Become a member

**Merimbula - Imlay Historical Society welcomes new members – long-time residents or new to the area, come along and join us.**

We want you, and your contributions. And volunteering is a great way to meet new people and get involved in your community

No special skills or knowledge needed.

No age requirements – young or mature, we'll welcome you with open arms.

Want to learn new skills or meet new people? We've got lots of projects or jobs you can get involved in.

Don't feel comfortable at the front of house? There are plenty of behind-the-scenes roles.

Each member chooses what they want to do, and how often they want to do it. No mandatory activities, meetings or working bees.

- SHARE YOUR STORIES.**
- BECOME A MUSEUM GUIDE.**
- NURTURE YOUR GREEN THUMB IN THE MUSEUM GARDEN.**
- HELP WITH CATALOGUING.**
- HELP WITH THE PHOTO COLLECTION.**
- RESEARCH THE ARCHIVES.**
- LOOK AFTER THE COLLECTION.**

If you are lonely, have time to spare, don't want your lifetime skills to be wasted, would like to share your experiences, or just enjoy the company of a friendly and enthusiastic group, then come and join the Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society.

Membership is just \$15.00 a year (1 July – 30 June). You can go to the last page of this newsletter or go to our website and click on the "Join the Society" link; or use the form on the last page of this newsletter.



February visitors to the museum.





## Merimbula~Imlay Historical Society Inc.



The Old School Museum  
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Merimbula NSW 2548  
ABN 20 104 241 281

P O Box 280  
Merimbula NSW 2548  
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merimbulahistoricalsociety.org.au

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other).....Family Name.....

Given Names.....Preferred Name (if different).....

Home Address .....

.....State.....Postcode.....

Postal Address (if different).....

.....State.....Postcode.....

Email Address.....

Telephone Home.....Mobile.....Previous Member Yes/No

Occupation (or former Occupation).....Date of Birth.....

I hereby apply to become a member of the Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society Inc. In the event of my admission as a member I agree to be bound by the rules of the Society for the time being in force.

Signature.....Date.....

Nominated.....Date.....

Seconded .....Date.....

Joining/rejoining fee	\$1.00
Membership Fee	<u>\$15.00</u>
Total Payment	<u>\$16.00</u>

Payment may be made payable to Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society Inc by Cash, Cheque, Card or by direct deposit to:-

Bendigo Bank  
BSB 633 000  
Account 183 453 562  
Account Name Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society Inc  
Please use your name as reference

\* not compulsory but information helps when applying for grant funding or insurances



Donations \$2 or over  
to Old School Museum  
are Tax deductible